



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Environmental Protection: Mississippi River, Long Lake, Trempealeau, Wis.



Long Lake in Pool 7 of the Mississippi River, Trempealeau, Wisconsin.

Contact

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Location/Description

Part of the Corps' Environmental Management Program (EMP), the site is in the upper reach of pool 7 on the Wisconsin side of the Mississippi River near Trempealeau, Wisconsin. The site lies within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Long Lake is a semi-isolated backwater lake of the Mississippi River, approximately 15 acres in size. Much of the lake is five to seven feet deep with a maximum depth of 13 feet. Monitoring by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources indicated that the lake could suffer dissolved oxygen depletion during both the summer and winter. Lack of dissolved oxygen was considered a significant factor limiting the use of Long Lake by fish species such as crappie, bluegill, and largemouth bass. The solution for the dissolved oxygen depletion problem was to provide a reliable source of fresh water to the lake.

The project included excavation of a 760-foot long channel from the Mississippi River to Long Lake. The channel has a 10-foot bottom width. A 48-inch culvert with a slide gate regulates flows through the channel. Two rock jetties were constructed on the Mississippi River end of the channel to deflect sediment and debris from the channel.

Status

A construction contract was awarded in May 1999 to Phenco, Inc. of Neenah, Wisconsin. Construction will be completed during the summer of 2000 at an estimated construction cost of \$346,000. When construction is completed, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will operate and maintain the project. For the first few years of operation, regulation of flows through the channel will vary as experience is gained to determine the optimal amount of flow to allow into Long Lake during the summer and winter. After that, a regular regulation pattern will be followed. Based on experience with other similar projects, in November the gate would be opened for winter flows, in March the gate would be closed prior to spring high water, and in May the gate would be opened for summer flows, the following is the expected schedule for operation of the project.

Authority

The Long Lake Habitat Project was planned and designed under the authority of the Upper Mississippi River System - Environmental Management Program (UMRS-EMP) and constructed in accordance with a Definite Project Report dated June 1989. The EMP was authorized by Section 1103 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, and reauthorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

The Long Lake Habitat Project was planned and designed as part of a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and local interests.

Fiscal

Project design and construction costs are 100 percent Federal because the project is located on national wildlife refuge lands. Operation and maintenance costs are 100 percent Federal (a responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

Federal Cost	\$649,000
Non-Federal Cost	\$0
Total Cost	\$649,000